

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide from *Corynebacterium glutamicum* having a polynucleotide sequence which encodes the sigma factor M (sigM) gene, and a host-vector system having a coryneform host bacterium in which the sigM gene is present in attenuated form and a vector which carries at least the sigM gene according to SEQ ID No 1, and the use of polynucleotides which comprise the sequences according to the invention as hybridization probes.